MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 NOVEMBER 1982

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian Offensive -- IRNA announced that an Iranian offensive launched late on 1 November has succeeded in capturing 250 square km of territory, including four border outposts located 75 to 80 km southwest of Dezful and 30 km north of Faqih and bringing oil wells in the Zubaydah region of Iraq into Iranian artillery range. However, INA claimed that the offensive "failed miserably." Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio asserted that the Iraqi Air Force has made direct hits on Iranian targets and is proving its "complete supremacy" in air battles. Although IRNA reported that an Iraqi aircraft was shot down in southern Iran, INA quoted Iraqi military sources as saying that none of the Iraqi planes had been downed. IRNA stressed that the operation is "solely" aimed at regaining Iranian territory occupied by Iraq.

Maritime War Zone -- An Iraqi military spokesman told INA that Iraq has declared an area in the northern Gulf a maritime war zone and has warned maritime shipping companies that it will not accept responsibility for ships in the area.

Mediation Efforts -- Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i has sent a message to Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure, head of the Good Offices Committee, criticizing the committee's latest peace proposals as "nothing new," IRNA revealed. The message asserted that the proposals only encourage further Iraqi aggression. In another IRNA report, the commander of the Iranian Ground Forces claimed that the only way Iran can obtain its rights from Iraq is to continue the war until final victory.

Iran

A Kurdish spokesman in Paris stated that Bukan in East Azarbayjan Province has been recaptured by Kurdish forces following clashes in which 80 Iranian guards were killed, the clandestine Free Voice of Iran reported. The commander of the Iranian Ground Forces asserted that the town is still controlled by government forces, IRNA reported.

Lebanon

Al-Jumayyil in Morocco -- After meeting with Moroccan King Hassan II in Rabat, President Amin al-Jumayyil said in a departure statement broadcast by Rabat radio that there was "full coordination" of views between himself and King Hassan on all points under discussion, which included the results of King Hassan's visit to Washington at the head of the Arab League delegation. Al-Jumayyil returned to Beirut early on 2 November, Beirut radio reported. Although KUNA said earlier that Al-Jumayyil would meet with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf during his visit to Morocco, monitored Moroccan sources did not mention any such meeting.

Security Situation -- Druze socialists and Christian Lebanese forces clashed violently east of 'Alayh, causing the closure of the Beirut-Damascus highway, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The road was subsequently reopened after a cease-fire agreement was reached, the radio said. One Christian militiaman was killed and several other people were injured in the fighting, according to the radio. An Israeli soldier was injured when his unit was caught in crossfire between Christians and Druze, according to an IDF announcement carried by ITIM. The IDF entered several villages to stop the clashes, THE JERUSALEM POST reported.

Two U.S. Marines and two Lebanese civilians were wounded by a car-bomb explosion in southern Beirut, according to the Voice of Lebanon.

Israeli-Lebanese Differences on Talks -- Israel has expressed absolute opposition to Lebanon's suggestion that Israel negotiate with a Lebanese military committee through

U.S. mediation, Jerusalem radio reported. Noting that Israel insists on involving political representatives of both countries in direct talks, the radio cited an Israeli source close to the negotiations as saying that Morris Draper, U.S. deputy assistant secretary for Near Eastern affairs, appears to be representing President al-Jumayyil rather than the United States.

Israel

Relations With Syria -- Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Syria has announced its willingness to conclude a nonbelligerence agreement with Israel in exchange for a full Israeli withdrawal to the 1967 borders, Jerusalem radio reported. This position was expressed by the Syrian representative in the recent Arab League delegation to Washington.

Relations With Egypt -- Israel opened its new hotel in Tabah for a breaking-in period, Jerusalem television reported. Meanwhile, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali told the Israeli ambassador in Cairo that Israel should not open the hotel, Jerusalem radio noted. Citing AL-AHRAM, MENA reported that Egypt recently recalled its consul in Elat to Cairo as a warning to Israel over the Tabah dispute. In his remarks to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir accused the Egyptians of violating all clauses of the normalization agreement, according to Jerusalem radio.

West Bank -- Renewed disturbances erupted in Ramallah, Nabulus and near Bethlehem to mark the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, Jerusalem radio reported on 2 November.

Egypt

Air Force Maneuvers -- Although MENA did not list President Husni Mubarak among those attending the air force's live-ammunition maneuvers in the Western Desert, AFP reported that Mubarak was present but left before the end, when a Mirage V fighter crashed. Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah said the maneuvers were "ordinary" and were not intended to convey any "message" to Israel, according to AFP.

Ghali on Negotiations -- Commenting on the future of Middle East peace negotiations in a Cairo radio discussion program, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said Egypt refuses to participate in any negotiations from now on unless the Jordanians and Palestinians also participate in them.

Gulf

The third session of the GCC ministerial council opened in Bahrain to prepare and discuss the agenda for the third GCC summit conference to be held on 9 November, Manama radio reported. According to WAKH, the GCC foreign ministers approved the agenda and then met in a closed session to discuss "the major issue" on the agenda. The Kuwaiti daily AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM claimed that the GCC summit will postpone endorsing the Gulf security agreement until the issue has been studied further.

Pakistan

Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq described his talks with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi as "excellent," Delhi radio reported. Karachi radio reported that the leaders discussed bilateral issues and agreed to establish a joint India-Pakistan commission and to cooperate at the March 1983 nonaligned summit to be held in New Delhi. In an interview given to the BANGKOK POST during a stopover in Thailand en route to Indonesia, the Pakistani leader said "we have broken the ice and are building a favorable environment for South Asia."

PLO

A PLO radio station began what it called an experimental transmission on 1 November. The station, which was broadcast on the frequency normally used by the Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, signed on with the same opening song and announcement used by the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio.

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 212 *2 November 1982*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

BANGLADESH

Ershad Views Army Role, Politics, Constitution D 1
[THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER 23 Oct]
Situation in Saidpur Reported 'Quite Normal' D 1

INDIA

Press Statement Issued on Gandhi-Haq Talks E 1
Karachi Account E 1
Haq Departs, Describes Talks as 'Excellent' E 1
Sethi Meets With Iranian Official on Students E 2
Arson, Stabbing Reported in Baroda 1 November E 2
Patrols Continue E 2
Production of Surface-to-Air Missiles Begins E 2

PAKISTAN

President Sends Message to Gandhi From Aircraft [Delhi] F 1
Yaqub Khan Comments on Haq-Gandhi Meeting F 1
Acting President, CMLA Officially Announced F 1
Nusrat Bhutto Told To Have More Medical Tests [AFP] F 1
Pakhtoon Leader Reportedly Under House Arrest [Delhi] F 1

IRAN

'Muharram' Offensive Against Iraq Announced I 1
Territorial Gains Reported I 1
'Number' of Iraqis Captured I 1
Iraqi Aircraft Downed I 1
Joint Communique Issued I 2
'Liberated' Posts Listed I 3
Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Defense Council Meeting I 3
IRNA Report I 5
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,097 I 5
Iraqi Garrisons Bombarded 30-31 October I 6
Official Discusses War With Soviet Envoy I 6
Musavi Chairs, Comments on Cabinet Meeting I 6
Bill To Establish Intelligence Ministry Approved I 7
[KEYHAN 12 Oct]
Revolution Guards To Organize Naval Units I 8
Ground Forces Commander Denies Bukan Capture I 8
Iraqi Ulema Official on Cease-Fire Conditions I 9
IRNA Reports Iraq Executes Khomeyni Supporters I 9

ERSHAD VIEWS ARMY ROLE, POLITICS, CONSTITUTION

BK311505 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 23 Oct 82 p 1

[Excerpts] The Chief Martial Law Administrator [CMLA] Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad said in Dhaka on Friday that the present Constitution which is in suspension will be retained with amendments of clauses to suit the requirements of the people.

Addressing a press conference at the CMLA's Secretariat the chief martial law administrator denied that a new constitution is being framed. He emphatically said, "We have our Constitution and some clauses will be changed to meet the needs for ensuring welfare of the common masses." Replying to a question whether the fundamental clauses of the Constitution would be changed, General Ershad said the Constitution would be changed to serve the interest of the people and not of an individual.

Replying to another question General Ershad said that the armed forces should have greater participation in the national activities for stability and such a system should be evolved which would ensure welfare of the people and prosperity of the country. The system must suit our condition, he asserted.

General Ershad told another questioner that the politicians would run the country. "We are here to give a system only", he said. When his attention was drawn to his earlier remarks about politicians General Ershad said that he had profound respect for the honest and elderly politicians of the country. They can give a lot to the nation, he opined. He, however, regretted that some politicians in the past exploited the people for their self-interest. "I have no respect for those politicians," he added.

Replying to a question on revival of political activities General Ershad said that the elections to union parishads would be held next year. He said that the first priority of his government was to tackle the economic problems. Politics will come later, he indicated.

BSS adds: When his attention was drawn to the arrest of some lawyers of the Supreme Court Bar the CMLA said, "They have violated the martial law and they will be tried."

He said that some persons were trying to launch a movement for their selfish interest.

Asked whether the recent release of three politicians namely Mr. Saifur Rahman, Col. (Retd) Nuruzzaman and Mr. Suranjit Sengupta was any indication of shift in government policy the CMLA said that none of them were taken to custody as politicians.

Mr. Saifur Rahman, a former finance minister, was arrested on charge of corruption and he had been acquitted in one case. There was however another case against Mr. Rahman, the CMLA said. Similarly Col. (Retd) Nuruzzaman was also taken in custody on charge of corruption and he had been released on bail. Mr. Suranjit Sengupta was detained for some of his "utterances" and he has now been released.

SITUATION IN SAIDPUR REPORTED 'QUITE NORMAL'

BK291730 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] The situation in Saidpur is now reported to be quite normal. Two inquiry teams are now conducting investigation into the incident, which took place during 'Ashura yesterday, when an unruly mob attacked police personnel and wanted to snatch away their arms. A spokesman of the local administration told our newsroom in Dhaka this evening that there was no further untoward incident and everything is under control. Section 144 [banning assembly of five or more persons] continues to remain in force during daytime.

PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED ON GANDHI-HAQ TALKS

BK011256 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] India and Pakistan have agreed to the establishment of a joint commission. The agreement was reached during today's talks between Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi and President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan. A joint press statement released this afternoon said that the two leaders issued instructions for the rapid conclusion of modalities and formalities about the establishment of the commission. In pursuance of this, officials of the two countries will meet in New Delhi next month. The officials' meeting to be held at secretaries level will also consider Pakistan's draft of a nonaggression pact and the Indian draft of a treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation.

The All India Radio correspondent recalls that early this year Mrs Gandhi had suggested to then foreign minister of Pakistan, Agha Shahi, setting up of the joint commission. Agha Shahi had agreed to it in principle.

Replying to questions at the joint press briefing, the Indian spokesman said the modalities of the joint commission were in the process of being worked out. He said it would be premature to speculate on the ambit of the commission.

The joint statement said that the talks between the Pakistan president and Mrs Gandhi were held in an atmosphere of cordiality. Bilateral matters were discussed. Regional and global issues were also reviewed. They looked forward to continuing their discussions at the time of the nonaligned summit in New Delhi in March next.

The talks between Mrs Gandhi and President Zia lasted about an hour. They were assisted by the foreign ministers of India and Pakistan, Narasimha Rao and Sahabzada Yaqub Khan. Delegations of the two countries held a separate meeting at the same time.

Karachi Account

BK011026 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Pakistan and India have agreed to establishment of an India-Pakistan joint commission. This was stated in a joint press statement issued at the end of talks between Pakistan President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi in New Delhi this afternoon. The statement said that the two leaders, while agreeing to the setting up of the commission, issued instructions for the rapid conclusion of modalities and formalities in this regard. In pursuance of this decision, officials of the two countries will meet in New Delhi next month. They will consider the Pakistan's draft nonaggression pact and the Indian draft of a treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation.

The statement said the two leaders assisted by their foreign ministers met at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi this morning. The talks were held in an atmosphere of cordiality. Bilateral matters were discussed at the talks. Regional and global issues were also reviewed.

The joint statement further said that the two leaders looked forward to continuing their discussions at the time of the nonaligned summit meeting in New Delhi in March next year.

HAQ DEPARTS, DESCRIBES TALKS AS 'EXCELLENT'

BK011407 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] The Pakistan president accompanied by Begum Zia and others arrived in the capital this morning on a brief stay while on his way to Indonesia.

Talking to newsmen at the airport later before his departure, General Ziaul Haq described the talks as excellent. He said these could not be better.

Approached by newsmen Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi added that the talks were very cordial.

In reply to a question about Begum Bhutto, she said the Pakistan president has told her that the doctors are examining the matter. The question is related to permitting Begum Bhutto to go abroad for treatment.

General Zia was seen off at the airport by the prime minister, the external affairs minister and others.

SETHI MEETS WITH IRANIAN OFFICIAL ON STUDENTS

BK011615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Iranian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Javad Mansuri called on Union Home Minister P.C. Sethi in New Delhi today. Mansuri discussed with the home minister about the Iranian students studying in various institutions in the country. He requested the home minister to look into the cases of arrest of Iranian students and likely deportation of some students studying for their final examination.

ARSON, STABBING REPORTED IN BARODA 1 NOVEMBER

BK011609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] An official spokesman told our Ahmedabad correspondent this evening that four incidents of arson were reported from different parts of Baroda City today. These include a fire in a godown [warehouse] of crackers. One more person was stabbed to death today, taking the toll to seven in the clashes which broke out on Wednesday.

Patrols Continue

BK020306 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] In Baroda, no untoward incident has been reported since 2000 last night. According to an official spokesman, the director general of police and other top officials are camping in Baroda and keeping a close watch on the situation. The army and the police personnel continue to patrol the affected areas.

PRODUCTION OF SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES BEGINS

BK020950 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Infrastructure required for development of antitank and surface-to-air missiles has been established in the defense research and development organization. Currently, work for development of a number of technologies for antitank and surface-to-air missiles is in progress in the country. Bharat Dynamics Ltd has been set up for production of missiles appropriate for the country's needs. This information was given in the Rajya Sabha by the defense minister.

PRESIDENT SENDS MESSAGE TO GANDHI FROM AIRCRAFT

BK011613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] In a message to Mrs Gandhi from his aircraft, the Pakistan president said their talks had strengthened his belief that their joint endeavor to build a relationship of trust and amity between India and Pakistan will be crowned with success.

YAQUB KHAN COMMENTS ON HAQ-GANDHI MEETING

BK020229 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, in an interview with Radio Pakistan onboard the aircraft flying from New Delhi to Bangkok, said that during the hour-long meeting between the Pakistan president and the Indian prime minister, most of the discussion was concerned with steps to improve bilateral relations. He said the two countries are well aware of their respective viewpoints on old issues and, therefore, the two leaders avoided repeating them.

ACTING PRESIDENT, CMLA OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED

BK010350 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] It has been officially announced in Rawalpindi that Supreme Court Chief Justice Mohammad Haleem will act as president during the absence of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq from the country. Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Chairman Gen Mohammad Iqbal Khan will act as chief martial law administrator.

NUSRAT BHUTTO TOLD TO HAVE MORE MEDICAL TESTS

BK311207 Hong Kong AFP in English 1153 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Karachi, Oct. 31 (AFP) -- A six-member Pakistani government-appointed board today advised Begum Nusrat Bhutto, widow of executed former Prime Minister Zulafiqar Ali Bhutto, to have fresh blood reports and x-rays so it could decide whether she needs medical treatment abroad.

The government appointed the board on an application by Begum Bhutto, reportedly suffering from cancer, for permission to travel.

After a thorough examination of Begum Bhutto the board will submit its report to the Health Ministry for a final decision.

Talking to newsmen prior to her appearance before the board, Begum Bhutto said she was feeling giddy, exhausted and weak, and had suffered from constant fever for the last few months.

PAKHTOON LEADER REPORTEDLY UNDER HOUSE ARREST

BK310903 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Pakhtoon leader Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan is reported to have been placed under house arrest. He was arrested near Peshawar yesterday.

Reports quoting an official press release said in Peshawar that Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan has been detained for his participation in political meetings during the last 2 weeks. The 96-year-old leader had recently returned to Pakistan after several years of exile in Afghanistan.

'MUHARRAM' OFFENSIVE AGAINST IRAQ ANNOUNCED

LD020836 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] According to reports received from Karbala', headquarters for joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, a series of operations bearing the name Muharram and the codename O Zaynab began at 2208 yesterday in order to liberate the remaining regions of Islamic land occupied by the enemy in the southern operational regions west of Eyn-e Kosh. Enjoying the blessings of God, these operations are victoriously continuing. Details will be brought to your attention in future bulletins as soon as they become available.

Territorial Gains Reported

LD020946 Tehran IRNA in English 0902 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Karbala' HQ, Nov 2, IRNA -- In a joint communique released by the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) and the army, it was reported that the Islamic forces gained control over more than 50 kms of the heights in the region west of 'Eyn-e Khosh (some 75 kms west of Dezful).

It also said that the Eyn-e Khosh-Dehloran axis was now out of Iraqi fire range after more than 25 months, since the beginning of the Iraqi imposed war.

The Iraqi forces suffered heavy losses while a large area of the Islamic territories of Iran were liberated, including a number of important oil wells in the region.

Since the outbreak of the imposed war, the Iraqis were known to be pumping oil from the oil fields they occupied in the area.

The operation began at 22:08 hours last night, code named Muharram, and is still continuing.

'Number' of Iraqis Captured

GF021014 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Continuing the Muharram operations, the Muslim fighters today succeeded in removing the Eyn-e Khosh-(Mohshen)-Dehloran road from the range of the fire of the aggressor Saddamist forces. The soldiers of Islam succeeded in the early hours of the operations in controlling the border heights of the (Himrin) Mountains 10 km from the western (Tayb)-Fakkah road. They also put the Saddamist fire out of range of the Dehloran-Andimeshk-(Mohshen) post road.

Reports from the battlefronts say a number of Iraqi military personnel was captured during these operations by the victorious Islamic forces. A large group of them surrendered to the Islamic forces.

Iraqi Aircraft Downed

LD021018 Tehran IRNA in English 0904 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Karbala' HQ, Nov 2, IRNA -- An Iraqi aircraft was shot down by the Islamic forces this morning in the operational region in southern Iran, west of Eyn-e Khosh. Iraq also admitted to the crash.

The Islamic forces liberated four Iranian border outposts last night after only two hours of battle with the Iraqi aggressors.

The (Cham Mendi), Cham Sori, (Vaawe), Rabut, Nahr-e Anbar outposts, all of which are located about less than ten kms from the border, were liberated under heavy rain fall. The outposts are about 30 kms north of Faqih, some 80 kms southwest of Dezful.

Also IRNA learned that among the heights liberated in the region are height No 292 and 400, overlooking the Iraqi towns of Al-Oharbi and Tayeb, and the Al-Basra-Baghdad axis.

Among the regions also in Iranian fire range are the Iraqi oil wells in the Zubaydah region of Iraq. Also the Sayat oil wells in Iran, which pumped some 25,000 barrels of oil a day prior to the Iraqi imposed war, was regained by the Islamic forces. The total areas liberated in this operation are 250 square kms of Iranian land.

Meanwhile foreign imperialist news agencies such as United Press International (PIP) deliberately did not mention the fact that the Iranian liberated regions were occupied by the Iraqi aggressors all during the last two years when the war actually began.

The operation began at 22:00 hours last night, code named Muharram, and is still continuing. The operation is solely aimed at regaining Iranian territory which are still occupied by the Iraqis, despite their wide spread propaganda stating the contrary.

Joint Communique Issued

GF021034 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text of joint military communique issued by the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps on 2 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Power and strength come only from Almighty God. We respond to you O Husayn. O Zaynab, O sister of Husayn, O heroine of Karbala'. O rebel against Yazid and his aides. O bearer of the banner of Islam. The victorious Islamic forces that so far, with the help of God, have achieved more victories today are surging forward, with you inspiring them with assistance and strength, to launch an incessant war agaist the aggressors and to put an end to Saddam's aggression, this U.S. agent who has sold himself to internatioanl oppressors, and to liberate the occupied territories and restore them to our Islamic homeland.

At 2000 last night, the Muharram operations began with the codename O Zaynab. These operations are being carried out by he heroes of Islam, the forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the mass mobilization forces and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The heroic Muslim fighters have, from the first hours of the offensive, achieved magnificent victories for our heroic Muslim people. The victorious heroes of Islam, during these heroic oeprations, have succeeded in dealing punishing blows to the Zionist Iraqi Ba'thist army and succeeded in putting the Saddamist fire out of range of the Dehloran-'Eyn-e Khosh road. This road was within the range of the Saddamists' fire and under the Saddamists' control for more than 2 years.

During these magnificent operations, the heroes of Islam succeeded in fully controlling 50 sq km of the strategic border heights in the southwestern part of the country and in liberating a large area of the Islamic homeland under the occupation of the Zionist Ba'thist regime.

[Words indistinct] the victorious Muharram operations, which began last night, the border oil installations in the southwestern part of the country, which are of great importance, and hoisted the glorious flag of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

We will give you later details of the enormous losses sustained by the disgraced enemy in men and material. We will also inform the struggling Islamic nation of the results of the victories of the heroes of Islam. If you support God, He will grant you victory and make sure your steps.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

'Liberated' Posts Listed

LD021054 Tehran IRNA in English 0956 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Qa'em HQ, Nov 2, IRNA -- The following are the locations of the liberated Iranian border posts during last night's Muharram offensive:

- Bayat, located six kms east of the international border, south of Dehloran, and northeast of the Iraqi town of Kuwait and it is at the northern end of operational region, east of the Meymeh River.

- Nahr-e Anbar, located two kms from the Nahr-e Anbar village, three kms west of the Doyerich River, three kms east of the Jabal al-Humar heights, parallel to the international border, between the Musiyan and Cham Sori outposts.

- Cham Sori, located eight kms east of the international border, northwest of the Doyerich River, between the Nahr-e Anbar and the Rabut border posts.

- Rabut, this border post is located in the southern section of the battle, 9 kms east of the international border, and about 10 kms southwest of the village of 'Eyn-e Khosh, and the enemy had concentrated many troops here.

- Also the Cham Hendi border post just south of Tabut is about to be liberated, and heavy battle is continuing there.

HASEMI-RAFSANJANI ON DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETING

LD021020 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] The Supreme Defense Council met last night, chaired by Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and head of the Supreme Defense Council. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative at the Supreme Defense Council; Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister; 'Ali Akbar Velayati, minister of foreign affairs; Brigadier General Zahirnezhad, chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Colonel Salimi, minister of defense; Captain Afzali, commander of the navy; Col Amir Jalali, deputy commander of the navy; Brother Shamkhani, acting commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; several commanders of the air and ground forces and navy; and Kharrazi, supervisor of the Bureau for War Propaganda, were present.

After the meeting, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the iman's representative at the Supreme Defense Council, took part in an interview with our correspondent and elaborated on the issues discussed at this session:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Hashemi, tonight the Supreme Defense Council met in session at which several commanders of [word indistinct] were present. Would you please tell us what issues were discussed and what decisions were made?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We studied the proposed plans by our three forces regarding future confrontation with the enemy. This took most of the time and the commanders of our forces were present at the session for this purpose. Reports on the situation at the fronts and future plans were submitted. It is all very hopeful and we hope to be able to have good news for our nation.

Other minor issues were discussed, such as the liberated regions, in which the enemy might have planted mines before leaving; they may have left other things to make the region dangerous for people who go there. We decided to send (?groups) to these regions to inspect the situation, and to train people and take the necessary steps so there will be no future danger for people [words indistinct].

Another point raised was exploitation of the oil in the islands around the Persian Gulf, for which Oil Ministry officials were present. We discussed the issue. [passage indistinct]

[Question] Following Iraq's threat to impose a political and economic embargo on the Islamic Republic of Iran should the [words indistinct] be defeated in the imposed Iraqi war, the United States has decided to increase its Rapid Deployment Force in the region. What do you think the connection is between these two (?utterances)?

[Answer] Usually they (?work together). They intend to create an atmosphere to frighten us and to make us lose heart and to boost the morale of the Iraqis. We have always known that they threaten us and that they use all means available to them -- Saudi Arabia and others, and many others of [words indistinct] and their (?lackeys) are at their disposal. [passage indistinct]

As far as the military issue is concerned, they do not have that kind of capability, and concerning the (?war), when we make a decision and when the time is ripe, it is as good as solved. They speak of mediators. We accept these mediators from the first day and have made our conditions known. We announce again that if a mediator has no new proposals or new points [words indistinct]. From now on, we will only accept those who have something new to say. Of course, we have not made a definite decision yet, but the situation they have created calls for such a reaction. Otherwise, if mediators are going to repeat earlier proposals, and then on their return announce that Iran does not accept them, this is not new. [passage indistinct]

[Question] What is your view on the negotiations of the puppet regime in Lebanon to sign a peace treaty with the Zionist regime? What will the stand of the Islamic Republic be in connection with this issue?

[Answer] We expected this from Lebanon. When they imposed (?him), we did not expect him to act independently. Now they will impose as much as they possibly can [words indistinct] on Arabs. They should be confronted by force. This (?kind) of power is available to Arabs, but unfortunately those who have power, do not use it. By power, I mean first the economic strength and [words indistinct]. The United States does not allow them and they have no independence to act when faced with the United States. Eventually they should decide to attack on all sides and face (?conspiracies). If they do, (?they will be victorious in the region).

[Question] What is your view on the incidents of the past few days (?in our country)?

[Answer] I cannot comment on this issue because it was not discussed and at present [words indistinct]. [end recording]

IRNA Report

LD021044 Tehran IRNA in English 0911 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov 2, IRNA -- Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Rafsanjani urged the peace missions having no new proposals, not to come to Iran stressing that the Islamic Republic was prepared for all possible consequences.

Imam Khomeyni's representative to the Supreme Defence Council [SDC] who was speaking at the end of Monday evening's SDC session, referring to Arabs' threat of the imposition of a political and economic sanction against Iran and an increase of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force in the region, said that they would always harmonize their activities.

Rafsanjani further added that this move was aimed at creating an atmosphere to encourage Iraq and that this country and its supporters had not wasted any single opportunity for action against the Islamic Republic. But, Rafsanjani noted, all these were empty threats.

Saudi Arabia had provided Iraq with money while others helped that regime through political and military means but the issue of the war will be solved when Iran will decide and deem it wise, Rafsanjani said.

Another issue discussed at the SDC, the Majlis speaker said, was the case of a group of Iraqi POWs who staged a sit-in and now were demanding that they should either be dispatched to fight with Saddam Husayn's forces or should be allowed to take part in the renovation activities in the war stricken areas. Decisions were taken in this connection and conveyed to the army headquarters to be carried out according to international regulations for the treatment of POWs.

The main topic of the SDC was to review future plans to confront the aggressive Iraqi enemy, Rafsanjani said hoping that there would be good news for the nation in this respect.

The session was presided over by President 'Ali Khamene'i, and also attended by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, Joint Staff Chief General Qasem 'Ali Zahirnezhad, Defence Minister Colonel Mohammad Salami, Navy Commander Captain Bahram Afzali, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, War Information Headquarters head Kamal Kharrazi, IRGC [Union Revolution Guards Corps] Deputy Commander 'Ali Shamkhani and a number of other officials.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,097

LD011734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Communique No 1,097 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Exchange of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued yesterday on the western fronts, with Meymak sector witnessing more intense fire. Our forces along these fronts brought Iraqi positions and units under artillery and mortar fire, killing or wounding about 65 Iraqi mercenaries. They also destroyed a number of Iraqi trenches and vehicles.

Exchange of fire also continued on the Musian front, with the Gendarmerie forces returning Iraqi fire and inflicting damage on Iraqi positions.

In the Naftshahr area, our ground forces completely destroyed an Iraqi command post.

Sporadic fire continued on the southern sectors between our victorious forces and the enemy. The Islamic forces, while defending their defensive positions, maintained control over enemy movements and activities and brought Iraqi positions under attack, causing casualties and damage to the enemy. A number of Iraqi trenches on the other side of the Arvand Rud were smashed by the fire of our Gendarmerie and armed forces positioned in Abadan. A number of Iraqi personnel were killed.

Four of our compatriots in Abadan were wounded and a number of houses and shops were damaged following Iraqi artillery fire on the town. Iraqi planes attempted to penetrate western and southern airspace but were repulsed by our air defense and tactical operations by our air force fighters.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRAQI GARRISONS BOMBARDED 30-31 OCTOBER

LD012106 Tehran IRNA in English 1954 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Sanandaj, Nov 1, IRNA -- Twenty three Iraqi soldiers were killed and many others wounded during Saturday and Sunday as the Iraqi garrisons of Seyyed Sadeq and Buban and the regions of Panjwin and 'Aliabad, inside Iraq, were hit by the artillery fire of the Islamic defenders.

Also, during this time, the Iranian forces completely destroyed one Iraqi personnel carrier with its crew, three munitions loaded vehicles and one Katyusha.

Meanwhile, a report from Bakhtaran said that six more Iraqi Muslims entered Iran through the western border and defected to the Islamic Republic during the said period.

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES WAR WITH SOVIET ENVOY

GF311631 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct 31, IRNA -- Despite the Soviet Union's position that the continuation of the Iraqi imposed war is in the interests of imperialism, and against the two peoples, Ahmad Azizi stressed that this war was imposed by Saddam with the complete support of U.S. lackeys and world arrogance.

The deputy foreign minister made this comment during a meeting with Soviet Ambassador V.K. Boldyrev, this morning, and added that the war could not come to an end without the punishment of the aggressor and without a responsible assessment of the injustice done to the Islamic Republic during the course of the war.

Azizi said that without the realisation of these conditions, the U.S. and its mercenaries around the world would be given the chance to aggress the genuine revolution and inflict considerable damage on the human economic and military resources of the deprived peoples without being punished.

MUSAVI CHAIRS, COMMENTS ON CABINET MEETING

LD311146 Tehran IRNA in English 1035 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct 31, IRNA -- The efforts of the Foreign Ministry in the U.N. for the expulsion of the Zionist regime and the countries which voted for the Iranian proposal were discussed in today's meeting of the Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi.

The Cabinet also conferred on the achievements of the Islamic forces in their purging operations in the western regions of the country and lauded the combatants for their important moves in liberating parts of the Piranshahr-Sar Dasht axis, in West Azerbayjan Province.

Also heavy industries minister, Behzad Nabavi, gave a report on the results of the recent visit of three ministers to the Kordestan region which included problems being faced by the people there and the development projects currently underway in that region.

The Cabinet stressed on the need for cultural, economic and developmental activities in Kordestan especially after the recent successful operations against the counter-revolutionary armed elements.

Other matters discussed in the meeting included a number of bills concerning with the customs and economic and financial affairs.

Iran is the greatest enemy of the Zionist regime, announced Prime Minister Musavi after the Cabinet session today.

He said that Iran's opposition to the Zionist regime's existence in the Mid East stemmed from its ideological belief in Islam.

Political games, he added, would never affect the Iranian stands vis-a-vis the problem of Quds (Jerusalem), and that the Iranian position towards countries which were in some ways connected to the Zionist regime had always been clear from the very beginning.

The prime minister was referring to the peace treaty between Lebanon and the Zionist regime, when he said that it was part of the conspiracy, masterminded by the U.S., and engineered in the Fes summit. He said he was optimistic about the future prospects of the Islamic countries since imperialism and Zionism's designs would be aborted through the vigilance of the peoples.

He also added that the bill determining the limits and activities of the private sector will be presented to the Majlis by the end of the week and the bill concerning the government and cooperative sectors will be introduced to the Majlis by the end of the year, ending March 21, 1983.

BILL TO ESTABLISH INTELLIGENCE MINISTRY APPROVED

WA011200 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 12 Oct 82 pp 1, 4

[Text] KEYHAN Political Service -- An open session of the Majlis was held today, chaired by 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani. It continued its debate on the bill to establish a Ministry of Intelligence for the Islamic Republic of Iran.

At the beginning of today's session. the government representative explained the bill, stating: "Four basic intelligence matters have been taken into consideration in this bill: internal intelligence, foreign intelligence, counterintelligence and security. In the preceding session, brothers from the opposition made remarks about this bill and said detection and prevention of crime are responsibilities of the judicial system. Meanwhile, there have been repeated meetings with members and lawyers of the Council of Guardians, and members of the Council of Guardians also agreed to establish a Ministry of Intelligence."

Speaking for the Revolution Guards Corps, Shamkhani then commented on the bill: "To establish a Ministry of Intelligence through this bill would oblige the Revolution Guards Corps to protect the objectives of the said ministry; the corps would have to implement such an obligation. Every ministry and government organ, faced with security matters, would have to make such information available to the Ministry of Intelligence, and this would constitute interference in the affairs of the Guards Corps. The corps is, in general, opposed to the intelligence organ becoming a ministry."

Movaheddi Saveji, spokesman for the Special Intelligence Committee, explained the bill and commented on its opponents' statements: "No budget has yet been authorized for this bill. However, once this ministry is established, it certainly will have its own budget, which of course will be secret. However, the said budget will be submitted to the Majlis for approval. In response to Shamkhani's comments, I should mention that intelligence is not a government concern; it has to do with the people. The Guards Corps and the Mobilization Corps are both at the heart of it. We did not turn over intelligence to any organ or ministry; we put it in the hands of a council consisting of 11 members, 5 of whom will be named by the imam."

The entire bill later was voted on and approved by a majority of 138 votes.

REVOLUTION GUARDS TO ORGANIZE NAVAL UNITS

GF311140 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] The Islamic revolution guards will form naval units to combat counterrevolutionaries and smuggling activities in our country's waters, according to Rafiq Doust, member of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, who traveled to Shiraz to visit a unit of the revolution guards stationed here and to study mobilization difficulties in the region. He arrived in Bushehr last Thursday.

After participating in the 'Ashura ceremony, he told a correspondent of the Central News Unit in Bushehr about the formation of Islamic revolution guards naval units and said that our aim in organizing these units is to safeguard the Islamic revolution and to combat counterrevolutionaries and smugglers along with their brother naval forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He also expressed his hope that by the formation of these units, the revolution guards would be able to have an active presence in the waters of our country.

He added that the aim of organizing a Ministry of Revolution Guards will be to establish a direct liaison with the Majlis and the government and to better mobilize the Revolution Guards Corps for steadfastessness and complete accomplishment of constitutional law and observance of Islamic standards and norms.

Commenting on the present preparations by the revolution guards on the battlefields, Doust pointed out the extended assistance and sacrifices of the fighting 'umma and martyr-nourishing people during the imposed war and said the history of wars has never registered such support as the nation has shown its fighters. This is proof of the righteousness and nobility of our Islamic revolution. At the beginning of the imposed war, we were unprepared and most of the preparation was provided by our heroic nation or it was seized by our Islamic combatants from the aggressor enemy by sacrifices and shedding their blood on the battlefields. We can proudly claim that now we have 10 times more capacity than at the beginning of the war and we can feel more confident in continuing the war.

At the end of the interview, he noted the formation of two armored armies and one artillery army by the revolution guards, which consist of equipment seized from the defeated enemy. He talked about the future course of the war and explained that the outcome of the war, already determined by the Supreme Defense Council, will be concluded by gaining complete victory over the aggressor Ba'thist army on all battlefields. The unbeliever Saddam will be annihilated and an Islamic republic will be established in Iraq by the Iraqi Muslim people, which will be elected by the oppressed people of Iraq.

GROUND FORCES COMMANDER DENIES BUKAN CAPTURE

LD011726 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Excerpt] During morning parade at Urumiyeh Garrison this morning, Col Sayyad-Shirazi, commander of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, denied rumors spread by colonialist mouthpieces on the capture of Bukan by armed counterrevolutionaries. He said: That city is at present still in the hands of the forces of Islam. Thanks to the alertness of the combatants of Islam and the combative people of Bukan, counterrevolution would never dare do such a thing.

During his speech, the commander of the ground forces, who arrived in Urumiyeh yesterday, said that the aim of his trip to western Azarbayjan was to inform the combatants stationed in that region of the latest developments on the fronts of the battle between right and wrong. While referring to the victories of the self-sacrificing forces of Islam over the forces of blasphemy, he said: We thank God Almighty who has made us worthy of these victories.

IRAQI ULEMA OFFICIAL ON CEASE-FIRE CONDITIONS

LD012048 Tehran IRNA in English 2017 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Arak, Nov 1, IRNA -- Member of the Iraqi combatant Ulema Society, Seyed Mohammed Baqer Hakim, said here today that about 100,000 Iraqi Muslim mujahideen are now prisoners in Iraq, and that ever since the culmination of the Islamic revolution in Iran (February 11, 1979) at least 5,000 people had been killed by Saddam Husayn's men.

Seyed Mohammad Baqer Hakim who had met and talked with a group of Iraqi POWs here, reminded that the option by the Iraqi POWs to fight against the Iraqi forces alongside with the Iranian troops, was sufficient evidence of the reluctance of the Iraqi people to fight against the Islamic forces, and that the gesture proved that the Iraqi troops were fighting under sheer coercion.

Asked about his opinion about Iran's conditions for a ceasefire with the Baghdad regime he said that Iran's terms for ending the war were in keeping with the Islamic dictates and corresponded with the international customs, and was one to the best interest of the people of Iran and Iraq.

He said Saddam Husayn was personally responsible for all damages inflicted upon the people of Iran and Iraq.

He also praised the behavior of the Iranian officials with the Iraqi POWs and said that based upon his own findings the Iraqi POWs enjoyed by far better facilities in their camps than did the Iranian soldiers.

IRNA REPORTS IRAQ EXECUTES KHOMEYNI SUPPORTERS

GF261750 Tehran IRNA in English 1724 GMT 26 Oct 82

[Text] Bakhtaran, Oct 26, IRNA -- Some 150 Iraqi Muslims from Karbala', who were accused of supporting the Islamic revolution, were executed by the Iraqi Ba'thist regime during Tuesday to Friday last week.

This was said by one of the seven Iraqi Muslims who entered Iran through one of the western regions and sought asylum in the Islamic Republic over the 48 hours preceding Tuesday.

This defector also emphasised that the victories of the Islamic combatants have made Saddam's regime to step up its pressure against the Iraqi Muslims.

Meanwhile, a report from Urumiyeh said that the two more Iraqi citizens entered Iran through another western region and defected to the Islamic Republic on Tuesday.